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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Nobutaka MINEFUJI

Serial No : Not Yet Assigned

Filed : Concurrently Herewith

For : ZOOM LENS SYSTEM

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-identified patent application on the merits, the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the claims as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows (a marked-up copy of the claim amendments is provided as an attachment to this Amendment):

1. (Amended-Clean Text) A zoom lens system comprising a negative first lens group, a positive second lens group, and a positive third lens group, in this order from an object,

wherein said negative first lens group comprises a negative meniscus lens element having the convex surface facing toward said object, and said positive third lens group comprises a positive biconvex lens element;